

much, but I think it is absurdly unfair. A manufacturing firm such as the Massey-Harris, which boasts of competing with other nations on equal terms everywhere except in Canada, cannot do so there without high protection. The fruit grower here has to pay duty on all his raw material, such as spray pumps and other implements, even on his young fruit trees, though there is only one nursery in British Columbia which even pretends to grow its own trees. The bee-keeper has to do the same, and now the small duty which helped the fruit grower to compete on equal terms with the American, who has cheaper labor, implements and trees, is to be withdrawn. If the bill were a free trade bill I should be in favor of it, but a bill that protects the rich manufacturer at the expense of the poor fruit grower, does not appeal to me.

One often hears it said that the men who get protection are the ones who can afford to subscribe largely to party funds and it certainly looks like it. If it is necessary to approach free trade gradually, at least the steps should have some appearance of equality. At the beginning of this discussion Laurier said that somebody would have to make sacrifices. Who so convenient as the small producer who has no political influence?

Hatzic, B.C.

QUERIES AND REPLIES

Kindly let me know how to keep the moth from the combs, and how to strengthen weak colonies in spring.

R. D., St. Mary's, Ont.

Reply

Space combs two inches apart, if possible, in supers, which latter should be stacked one above the other. On top super place queen excluder, upon which

should stand an open vessel containing bisulphide of carbon. The fumes will descend, and circulating about combs, destroy moth. The fumes are very explosive. Keep away all lights. Strengthen colonies in spring by feeding thin syrup, half a pint per colony each evening. Add frames of capped brood when weather becomes warm.

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I have twenty hives to winter outside (eleven Jones and nine Langstroth "ten frame"). What is the cheapest way to make above winter quarters; also the best way to keep mice out from bees that are being wintered outside.

Our honey crop has been short in this district, averaging about 50 lbs. clover per hive. The bass-wood has been a non-yielder in this district this year.

F. G., Norval Station, Ont.

Reply

In our opinion the best wintering cases are those that will contain four hives each, the four entrances facing the four points of the compass. Bees so wintered are found to cluster towards the centre, and the individual colony is benefitted by the combined warmth of the four. There is also an economy effected as regards the amount of material used in making the cases. There should be a space of some four inches between the surface of the hives and the outer case, the space being filled with planer shavings. Mice will be found to cause but little trouble if the entrances are of no greater depth than the ordinary depth of the hive entrance. It is a good plan for several reasons to retain the hives according to this arrangement after their removal from the cases in the spring. The yard will consist of groups of four hives each.

BEE-KEEPING

Indexed Wm. C.

My experience in bee-keeping is rather limited, having started about ten years ago as I was a hobby. Bees seem to be the most profitable, and I have found them to be about the most profitable at first. We had any amount of bees here, a scrubby tree north of Winnipeg, everywhere by the waste ground. From frost we have a good crop of willow herb, but about 25 different kinds of flowers together with lots of pollen bearing plants. A few have not been able to begin to grow, but have not been able to get them to grow. It is patronized much, but is not grown here. You see my bees have and collect honey and I expect if an expert followed me around, he would have at some of my way but I started without experience, and without observation and without hints received from others. I can assure you they are considerably. I put 8 in the cellar last winter and they touched them the evening. I had a hard time keeping them, as I have a furnace, and they boarded off as it was a hard job so the temperature just right managed to have it 60 degrees. I took them in April and found them well, with the exception of lost its queen. The hive was well filled with eggs